

## ABSTRACT

5 A liquid crystal device comprises a nematic liquid crystal,  
voltage means for applying a voltage across said liquid  
crystal, and two substrates (42, 30) each provided with  
an alignment layer (32, 33), wherein: said liquid crystal  
is sandwiched between said two substrates (42, 30);

10 said nematic liquid crystal can be placed in at least  
one operating state and at least one non-operating state,  
and at least one of said alignment layers (32, 33) is provided  
with a plurality of surface protrusions (40) formed from  
an anisotropic material.